SENATE BILL 1115

By Johnson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 50, relative to the transportation of passengers without compensation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 50, Part 4, is amended by adding the following new section:

- (a) As used in this section, "volunteer driver":
- (1) Means a person who transports passengers, by commercial motor vehicle, without compensation and not in the furtherance of a commercial enterprise; and
- (2) Includes a person who operates a youth or church bus, who transports senior citizens to and from medical appointments or the grocery store, or who transports persons who are homeless.
- (b) Upon initial application for, or renewal of, a commercial driver license, a volunteer driver is exempt from obtaining a medical examination and a medical examiner's certificate or similar documentation, if the volunteer driver:
 - (1) Meets the other requirements for a commercial driver license under this chapter and 49 CFR Part 383; and
 - (2) Certifies on the application or renewal form that the volunteer driver:
 - (A) Will engage, or is engaged, solely in the intrastate transportation of passengers; and

- (B) Has no established medical history or clinical diagnosis of a physical or mental condition that is likely to interfere with the person's ability to control and operate a commercial motor vehicle safely.
- (c) A person who knowingly submits a false statement to the department of safety under this section is subject to cancellation of the person's commercial driver license.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, the public welfare requiring it.